11. Financial Assistance to persons distinugished in letters, arts and such other walks of life who may be in indigent circumstances and their dependents.
12. Research Support to Voluntary Organisations engaged in Cultural Activities.
13. Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums.
14. Setting up of Multipurpose Cultural Complexes including those for Children.

**Preservation of tourist spots in J&K**

2139. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have categorised tourist places in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether tourist places in Jammu and Kashmir are being damaged by the people carrying hotel and tourism business there;

(d) if so, whether Government are taking concrete steps to preserve natural beauty of these tourist spots; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The State Government of Jammu & Kashmir has categorised the tourist places into two categories *viz.* developed areas and less developed areas.

(c) Some areas are facing damages due to over utilisation by the people conducting hotel and tourism business.

(d) and (e) The State Government has imposed restrictions on further development of tourist infrastructure in such areas. Categorisation of tourist places is an important step in this direction. No tourism projects such as hotels, restaurants etc. are being approved in these areas without the clearance of the J&K State Pollution Control Board.